

In the Specification

Please amend the Specification at page 2 as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

- [0009] Aspects of the present invention provide data management systems and data storage methods.
- [0010] According to one aspect, a data management system comprises a data storage system configured to store data of a plurality of client protected computer systems, wherein the data storage system comprises a plurality of storage devices individually having a respective capacity, and a quantity of the data of the protected computer systems to be stored exceeds capacities of individual ones of the storage devices and storage control circuitry coupled with the data storage system and configured to assign individual ones of the individual storage devices to store data for respective ones of the protected computer systems.
- [0011] According to another aspect, an article of manufacture comprises a processor usable medium comprising processor usable code configured to cause processing circuitry of storage control circuitry to access information regarding a plurality of storage devices, access information regarding a plurality of client protected computer systems, associate individual ones of the protected computer systems with respective ones of the storage devices, receive a request to add a new protected computer system, monitor capacities of the storage devices, and assign the new protected computer to one of the storage devices responsive to the monitoring.
- [0012] According to an additional aspect, a data storage method comprises providing a plurality of storage devices configured to store data for a plurality of client protected computer systems, wherein the storage devices individually comprise processing circuitry and a storage space, monitoring capacities of individual ones of the storage devices, associating one of the protected computer systems with one of the storage devices responsive to the monitoring, and implementing storage operations of the data for the associated one of the protected computer systems using the associated one of the storage devices in accordance with the associating.

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{0013} According to another aspect, a data storage method comprises a plurality of storage devices configured to store data for a plurality of client protected computer systems, the storage devices individually comprising processing circuitry, storing the data using the storage devices, monitoring capacities of the storage devices using storage control circuitry, providing a new storage device configured to store data for at least one of the protected computer systems and coupling processing circuitry of the new storage device with the storage control circuitry.

{0014} Other aspects are disclosed as is apparent from the following description.

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